

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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May 6, 2011

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From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

MOTION TO SEND LETTERS TO SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN, SENATOR BARBARA BOXER AND THE CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION IN SUPPORT OF H. CON. RES. 12 AND S. CON. RES. 4 (ITEM NO. 12, AGENDA OF MAY 10, 2011)

Item No. 12 on the May 10, 2011 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Antonovich to send letters to Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer and all members of the California Congressional Delegation urging support of H. Con. Res. 12 and S. Con. Res. 4 to establish a memorial for Jewish chaplains in the Armed Forces of the United States killed on active duty.

H. Con. Res. 12 (Weiner-D), as introduced on January 25, 2011, and S. Con. Res. 4 (Schumer-D), as introduced on January 26, 2011, would express the sense of Congress that an appropriate site on Chaplains Hill in Arlington National Cemetery should be provided for a memorial marker to honor the memory of Jewish chaplains who died while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. The memorial marker would be paid for with private funds. In addition, the Secretary of the Army would have exclusive authority to approve the design and site of the memorial marker.

H. Con. Res. 12 has 76 co-sponsors, including Representatives Howard Berman, Lois Capps, Bob Filner, Darrell Issa, Adam Schiff, Brad Sherman and Henry Waxman from the California Congressional Delegation. S. Con. Res. 4 has 18 cosponsors, including Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.

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Chaplains Hill in Arlington National Cemetery memorializes the names of chaplains who perished while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. Currently, chaplains from four wars rest on Chaplains Hill at Arlington National Cemetery. On May 5, 1926, chaplains who served in World War I dedicated the Chaplains Monument to 23 chaplains who died in that war. A memorial to 134 Protestant chaplains who died in World Wars I and II was dedicated on October 26, 1981. Additionally, a monument to 83 Catholic chaplains who died in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam was dedicated on May 21, 1989 in the Memorial Amphitheater.

H. Con. Res. 12 was referred to the House Committees on Veteran's Affairs and Armed Services on January 25, 2011. In addition, this concurrent resolution was heard in the House Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs on May 3, 2011. S. Con. Res. 4 was referred to the Senate Committee on Veteran's Affairs on January 26, 2011 and has not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

Because there is no existing policy to support proposals to establish a memorial on Chaplains Hill at Arlington National Cemetery for Jewish chaplains in the Armed Forces of the United States killed on active duty, support for H. Con. Res. 12 and S. Con. Res. 4 is a matter for Board policy determination.

WTF:RA MR:OR:LY:sb

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel